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11 February 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR: 25X1A9A [REDACTED]
25X1A9A FROM : [REDACTED] 25X1A9A
SUBJECT : Comments on Selected Aspects of [REDACTED]
Trip Report

1. Section 4. I'm not sure that the difficulties encountered by contractors in detaining data on the war should present us with any particular concern. Firstly, operations researchers always complain about not having enough data. Secondly, it would appear to me that this is the responsibility of the agency issuing the contracts and not a national intelligence problem. Thirdly, I am deeply suspect of people under forty who make broad comparisons between their current working conditions and those available to their profession during World War II. Fourthly, while there is a substantial element of truth in the accusation that the US lacks an integrated strategy in Vietnam, it is unlikely that any major change in this situation can be brought about from the bottom up. If our strategy is fragmented, it is because the problem is complex, not because of an absence of agonizing reappraisal.

2. Section 5. No comment other than that I am not surprised.

3. Section 9. The problem stated here -- that of a reduction in the quality and quantity of pacification information since early 1968 -- is one in which I partially concur. The absence of reasonably independent observations by State Department and other representatives in South Vietnam, however, has hit harder at OCI's operation than mine. Our main beef has been with the appalling tardiness of HES data and with the unexplained absence of any quantitative data on the APC.

Our evaluations of the situation in Vietnam have periodically been plagued with military reporting that was wishful rather than accurate. For this reason I share [REDACTED] apprehension over MACCORDS tightening

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its grip on the information process. Nonetheless, I feel that to challenge this situation would require a thorough analysis of exactly what we want that we are not getting now. This was, as you recall, one of the featured objectives of the now-defunct Data Task Force. Frankly, I feel that unless we are willing to reassemble that type of political horsepower, our disappointments with the reporting procedures will fall upon deaf ears.

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OFFICIAL ROUTING SLIP			
TO	NAME AND ADDRESS	DATE	INITIALS
1	Director/OCI		EDg
2	[REDACTED] - would you look into		
3	Proctor's 2 questions & provide me		
4	with some sort of answers to square		
5	this circle? EDg		
6			
ACTION		DIRECT REPLY	PREPARE REPLY
APPROVAL		DISPATCH	RECOMMENDATION
COMMENT		FILE	RETURN
CONCURRENCE		INFORMATION	SIGNATURE
Remarks: Drex-- I have read [REDACTED] comments on [REDACTED] paragraph 9. I don't think this answers my question. I want your response to the following: 1. Is the necessary information available anywhere? 2. Is the information really important [REDACTED]			
FROM: NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NO.		DATE	
ADDI 7E44 [REDACTED]		26 Feb	
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